

by the post if the post determines that such release is authorized by the Privacy Act. All other requests shall be submitted by the post to the Office of the General Counsel, FOIA/Privacy Act Unit (GC/FOI), 301 4th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20547, and the individual shall be so notified of this section in writing, when possible.

(d) In those instances where an individual requests records pertaining to herself/himself, as well as records pertaining to another individual, group, or some other category of the Agency's records, only that portion of the request which pertains to records concerning the individual will be treated as a Privacy Act request. The remaining portions of such a request will be processed as a Freedom of Information Act request by the office noted in paragraph (b) of this section.

§ 505.4 Requirements and identification for making requests.

(a) Individuals seeking access to Agency records may present their written request or may mail their request to the USIA, Office of General Counsel, FOI/Privacy Act (GC/FOI) Unit, 301 4th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20547. The GC/FOI Unit may be visited between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, except for legal holidays.

(b) Individuals, seeking access to Agency records, will be requested to present some form of identification. Individuals should state their full name, date of birth and a social security number. An individual must also include her/his present mailing address and zip code, and if possible a telephone number.

(c) When signing a statement confirming one's identity, individuals should understand that knowingly and willfully seeking or obtaining access to records about another individual under false pretenses is punishable by a fine of up to \$5,000.

§ 505.5 Disclosure of information.

(a) In order to locate the system of records that an individual believes may contain information about herself/himself, an individual should first obtain a copy of the Agency's Notice of Systems of Records. By identifying a particular

record system and by furnishing all the identifying information requested by that record system, it will enable the Agency to more easily locate those records which pertain to the individual. At a minimum, any request should include the information specified in § 505.4(b) above.

(b) In certain circumstances, it may be necessary for the Agency to request additional information from the individual to ensure that the retrieved record does, in fact, pertain to the individual.

(c) All requests for information on whether or not the Agency's system(s) of records contain information about the individual will be acknowledged within ten working days of receipt of the request. The requested records will be provided as soon as possible thereafter.

(d) If the Agency determines that the substance of the requested record is exceptionally sensitive, the Agency will require the individual to furnish a signed, notarized statement that she/he is in fact the person named in the file before granting access to the records.

(e) Original records will not be released from the custody of the records system manager. Copies will be furnished subject to and in accordance with fees established in § 505.11.

(f) Denial of access to records:

(1) The requirements of this section do not entitle an individual access to any information compiled in reasonable anticipation of a civil action or proceeding.

(2) Under the Privacy Act, the Agency is not required to permit access to records if the information is not retrievable by the individual's name or other personal identifier; those requests will be processed as Freedom of Information Act requests.

(3) The Agency may deny an individual access to a record, or portion thereof, if following a review it is determined that the record or portion falls within a system of records that is exempt from disclosure pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(j) and 552a(k). See §§ 505.13 and 505.14 for a listing of general and specific exemptions.

(4) The decision to deny access to a record or a portion of the record is

made by the Agency's Privacy Act Officer, Office of the General Counsel. The denial letter will advise the individual of her/his rights to appeal the denial (See § 505.9 on Access Appeal Committee's review).

§ 505.6 Medical records.

If, in the judgment of the Agency, the release of medical information directly to the requester could have an adverse effect on the requester, the Agency will arrange an acceptable alternative to granting access of such records to the requester. This normally involves the release of the information to a doctor named by the requester. However, this special procedure provision does not in any way limit the absolute right of the individual to receive a complete copy of her or his medical record.

§ 505.7 Correction or amendment of record.

(a) An individual has the right to request that the Agency amend a record pertaining to her/him which the individual believes is not accurate, relevant, timely, or complete. At the time the Agency grants access to a record, it will furnish guidelines for requesting amendments to the record.

(b) Requests for amendments to records must be in writing and mailed or delivered to the USIA Privacy Act Officer, Office of the General Counsel, 301 4th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20547, who will coordinate the review of the request to amend a record with the appropriate office(s). Such requests must contain, at a minimum, identifying information needed to locate the record, a brief description of the item or items of information to be amended, and the reason for the requested change. The requester should submit as much documentation, arguments or other data as seems warranted to support the request for amendment.

(c) The Agency will review all requests for amendments to records within 10 working days of receipt of the request and either make the changes or inform the requester of its refusal to do so and the reasons therefore.

§ 505.8 Agency review of requests for changes.

(a) In reviewing a record in response to a request to amend or correct a file, the Agency shall incorporate the criteria of accuracy, relevance, timeliness, and completeness of the record in the review.

(b) If the Agency agrees with an individual's request to amend a record, it shall:

(1) Advise the individual in writing;

(2) Correct the record accordingly;

(3) And, to the extent that an accounting of disclosure was maintained, advise all previous recipients of the record of the corrections.

(c) If the Agency disagrees with all or any portion of an individual's request to amend a record, it shall:

(1) Advise the individual of the reasons for the determination;

(2) Inform the individual of her/his right to further review (see § 505.9).

§ 505.9 Review of adverse agency determination.

(a) When the Agency determines to deny a request to amend a record, or portion of the record, the individual may request further review by the Agency's Access Appeal Committee. The written request for review should be mailed to the Chairperson, Access Appeal Committee, USIA, Office of Public Liaison, 301 4th Street, SW, Washington, DC 20547. The letter should include any documentation, information or statement which substantiates the request for review.

(b) The Agency's Access Appeal Committee will review the Agency's initial denial to amend the record and the individual's documentation supporting amendment, within 30 working days. If additional time is required, the individual will be notified in writing of the reasons for the delay and the approximate date when the review is expected to be completed. Upon completion of the review, the Chairperson will notify the individual of the results.

(c) If the Committee upholds the Agency's denial to amend the record, the Chairperson will advise the individual of:

(1) The reasons for the Agency's refusal to amend the record;